

## About Brownfields

### Brownfield Definition

A brownfield is "real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant." These abandoned or underutilized properties result in wasted infrastructure, development of green space on the edge of town and blight in urban and neighborhood areas.

### Background

EPA first developed brownfield policies in 1995. These EPA policies aimed to promote brownfield revitalization by providing liability protections and funding opportunities to persons taking on these challenging and important cleanup and reuse projects. In 2002, Congress passed the Brownfield Amendments to CERCLA, formalizing EPA's effective brownfield policies and providing over \$100,000,000 in annual brownfield funding. Using tools and funding created by the Brownfield Amendments, IDEQ's Brownfield Revitalization Program, Idaho's Economic Development Districts and Region 10 EPA work together to provide communities, local governments and private parties with financial and technical assistance related to brownfield assessment, cleanup and reuse.



Former Boise Cascade Mill

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Idaho  
Department of  
Environmental  
Quality

# Revitalizing Idaho's Brownfields



Rock Creek Property in Twin Falls

# REDEVELOPMENT

## Entities Eligible for Brownfield Funding

In general, units of local government, land clearance authorities and other quasi-governmental entities, government entities created by the State legislature regional councils or groups of general purpose units of local government, redevelopment agencies, Indian Tribes and states may apply for EPA Assessment and Revolving Loan Funds. In addition, non-profit organizations (including neighborhood associations) may apply for EPA Cleanup funds, EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessments and IDEQ Assessments. Private parties can work with eligible entities to obtain funding for a site.

## Site Eligibility for Brownfield Funding

With few exceptions, sites meeting the provided 'Brownfield Site' definition are eligible for assessment and cleanup funds. This includes a wide variety of sites: former gas stations, former mine sites, former timber mill sites, former bulk fuel storage and distribution sites, former landfills and, generally, any commercial or industrial site that may be contaminated with hazardous substances. Sites that may not be eligible for brownfields funding include:

- Properties listed on the National Priorities List;
- Sites that are the subject of an ongoing state or federal enforcement action related to site cleanup.
- Properties where the contamination is known to present a "high risk" to public health;
- Properties subject to an ongoing CERCLA removal action;
- Properties subject to enforcement under RCRA, OPA, TSCA, or SDWA;

## Brownfield Revitalization Opportunities

Please contact IDEQ and EPA to learn which of the following brownfield assessment and cleanup opportunities will work best for your site:

### IDEQ Brownfield Assessments

At no cost to the applicant, IDEQ contractors conduct an assessment to determine the nature and extent of contamination (if any) at brownfield sites. The assessment reveals whether the site is clean, lightly contaminated, or heavily contaminated; determines the nature and extent of the contamination; identifies potential cleanup options; and estimates cleanup costs (if any). To apply for an IDEQ Brownfield Assessment go to: [www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/Brownfields/](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/Brownfields/)

### Reuse Idaho Brownfields Coalition (RIBC) - Brownfields Cleanup Loan Fund

The RIBC, made up of Idaho's six Economic Development Districts and IDEQ, has \$3,000,000 available for brownfield cleanups. Beginning in October 2005, eligible entities and private parties may apply to RIBC for low-to-no interest loans funds and (in limited circumstances grant funds) to perform brownfield cleanups.

### EPA Assessment & Cleanup Grants

Eligible entities may apply directly to EPA for up to \$200,000 in grant funds for brownfields assessments and cleanups. EPA assessment funds may be used for 'area-wide' activities such as identifying, inventorying, prioritizing and assessing brownfields in a neighborhood, city or county, or to assess a specific site. Cleanup funds are directed at specific brownfield sites. To learn more about these EPA grants go to: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields)

### EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessments

Much like IDEQ's assessment program, at no cost to the applicant, EPA contractors conduct an assessment to determine the nature and extent of contamination (if any) at a brownfield sites, and provide the results in a report. To learn more about EPA's TBA Program go to: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/html-doc/tba.htm>

## Resources

For detailed information please visit the following:

EPA Brownfield Homepage:

[www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields)

EPA Region 10 Brownfield Homepage:

<http://Yosemite.epa.gov/r10/cleanup.nsf/brownfields/brownfields>

DEQ Brownfield Revitalization Homepage:

[www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/Brownfields/](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/Applications/Brownfields/)



Super Quick in Twin Falls

# REUSE